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Ward 6 Newsletter

Tucson First

October 26, 2015

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Police Chief Interviews

We've whittled the pool of police chief candidates down to four finalists. At the end of the year, Chief Villaseñor will end a career of over three decades with the City of Tucson Police Department. That's a lot of institutional knowledge to replace. We've begun the final stretch of the hiring process to locate his successor.

A few months ago, we contracted with a national search firm that specializes in hiring top cops around the country. The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) conducted a nationwide search and screened the initial set of applicants. A group of 60 was presented to the City Manager. That group was pared down to four finalists. The City Manager will recommend a choice to M&C from that group.

In advance of that recommendation, the candidates will go through interviews with a few different groups. There will also be a public Meet and Greet. All of that's scheduled for Thursday, October 29th.

A few months back, M&C chose a citizen selection committee. That group of 15 individuals will interview the candidates at a meeting that will be open to the public. Those interviews will take place in the M&C chambers on the 29th, and the cit-



Important Phone Numbers

**Tucson Police
Department**
911 or nonemergency
791-4444

Water Issues
791-3242/800-598-9449
Emergency: 791-4133

Street Maintenance
791-3154

Graffiti Removal
792-2489

**Abandoned
Shopping Carts**
791-3171

**Neighborhood
Resources**
837-5013

SunTran/SunLink
792-9222
TDD: 628-1565

**Environmental
Services**
791-3171

Park Wise
791-5071

**Planning and
Development
Services** 791-5550

**Pima Animal Care
Center**
724-5900

**Pima County Vector
Control**
Cockroach: 443-6501
Mosquito: 243-7999

Continued: A Message From Steve

izen panel will invest the bulk of the day conducting them. The day's schedule will be:

8:30 am - 10:00 am – Rick Gregory
10:00 am - 11:30 pm – Christopher Magnus
11:30 pm - 1:00 pm – Malik Aziz
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - LUNCH
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm – Larry Esquivel
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Discussion and recommendation

My two appointees to the citizen panel are Caroline Isaacs from the American Friends Service Committee and Michael Elsnor from the Institute for Social Justice. Both bring to the table a strong interest in sentencing and prison reform, and both embrace a model of community policing, where officers on the street are encouraged to build relationship with the community. I appreciate their willingness to represent those interests in this important process.

The interviews will take place in M&C chambers. You're free to go and listen to as much of it as you have time for.

There will also be separate interviews with both the Police Command group and the police union, followed by interviews with the City's Executive Leadership Team. Each group will provide input to City Manager Ortega, and he'll make a recommendation to M&C. We hope to have a selection sometime in December.

The Meet and Greet will take place from 5pm to 7pm out at the Starr Pass Marriott on the evening of the 29th. The event will be held in Tucson Ballroom J. I'm going to link to each candidate's resume so you can read all of the material I've got available. If you take the time to get involved and you come away with a preferred candidate, please feel free to share that opinion with me through the Ward Office.

By way of brief introduction, here's a little about each of the four finalists.

Malik Aziz is currently the Deputy Chief of the Dallas Police Department. He has been a police officer for over 23 years. Mr. Aziz lists fiscal management, community policing, organizational analysis, and leadership development in his skillset. He has been in the Deputy position in Dallas since 2008.

Christopher Magnus is currently the Police Chief of Richmond, California. He has held that position since 2006. Richmond has a population of 115,000, and his agency has a budget of \$75M, with a staff of 320 positions. Mr. Magnus also lists community policing as one of his priorities, and includes several community outreach efforts dealing with youth, domestic violence victims, and gang related issues.

Larry Esquivel is the Chief of Police of San Jose, California. He has held that post since January 2014. He is due to retire in January 2016. The San Jose agency is approximately

the same size as ours is – 941 sworn officers and a budget of just over \$300M. His experience includes patrol, air support, canine, and mobile emergency response teams.

Rick Gregory is Vice President and Senior Research Associate for the Institute for Intergovernmental Research in Tallahassee, Florida. He was most recently wearing a police uniform as Police Chief in Provo, Utah from July 2011 until July 2013. They had 159 officers and a \$15M budget. In his present position, Mr. Gregory puts together national training materials for law enforcement personnel.

That summary is really thumbnail. Here are the four resumes so you can see a fuller description of their backgrounds:

Aziz: https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/ward6/MALIK_AZIZ.pdf

Esquivel: https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/ward6/LARRY_ESQUIVEL.pdf

Gregory: https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/ward6/RICK_GREGORY.pdf

Magnus: https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/ward6/CHRISTOPHER_MAGNUS.pdf

This is obviously a very important hire, so I'd encourage you to try to see either the citizen committee interviews or to take part in the Meet and Greet later that day if you can.

Ward 6 Health Fair

We've confirmed a date and time for the health fair we'll be hosting on November 7th.

Many thanks to Jenny Panic and the UA College of Pharmacy for all of their help in putting this together. We're certainly grateful to the Albertson's and Safeway folks for donating up to 150 flu vaccines, too.

There will be several different health screening stations you'll be able to pick and choose from. They're listed on the flyer, shown below. In addition, the Pharmacy College will bring along information on prescription drug use and misuse, along with helpful tips for how to handle and dispose of them. The disposal piece will be handled at the Safe Seniors event on November 14th (see the "events section" of today's newsletter).

Children between the ages of 6 and 18 years of age must



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congresswoman Martha McSally (R)
(2nd District)
(202) 225-2542
Tucson Office: 520-881-3588

Congressman Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

Governor Doug Ducey (R)
602-542-4331
Tucson office:
520-628-6580

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild
520-791-4201

ZoomTucson Map
<http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/>

Health Care Clinic at Ward 6 Council Office

No Insurance? No Problem!

Free Flu Shot Clinic

- Provided for Residents with little or no health insurance.
- Must be 18 years old or have parent/guardian in attendance.

Date: Saturday, Nov. 7th, 2015
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: 3202 E. 1st St.
Phone: (520) 791-4601

**First Come, First Served.
No Appointment Necessary**

Health Screenings Offered

FREE OF CHARGE

- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Breathing Assessment
- Medication Review
- Health and Wellness Information

 THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
College of Pharmacy



have a parent or guardian present to give the okay. And, by way of reminder, the intent of this is to offer the vaccines free of charge to people who are underinsured or uninsured. All of the screening stations will be open to anybody who comes, though.

We're looking forward to seeing you on the 7th and doing what we can to encourage a healthy community.

...and remember the blood drive we'll be hosting on November 20th. I'll include more reminders in upcoming newsletters.

Rincon/University High School Marching Band



Band Day at the UA was celebrated on October 17th. About 40 high school bands and their support groups showed up from all over the southwest to compete against one another. The kids involved, as well as the staff and parents of the band members, put in hours and hours of practice. That time commitment includes the bands, flag lines, and other support groups. This year, Rincon/University received the highest rank possible, and was the only team to receive a ranking of Superior

with Distinction. They were presented the Nunamaker Award for the most outstanding group in the show.

Rincon/University will now head to the State Marching Festival on November 7th for more competition. We at the Ward 6 office wish them the best at the Festival as they represent not only midtown, but the entire City.



Jim Chaffee and TFD



While I'm tossing out kudos, great job by TFD in saving the lives of some pooches during their response to a recent fire. You'll note in the photo that this fire fighter is using a resuscitation mask on one of the little guys. West University resident Jim Chaffee was instrumental in proactively getting these dog masks into use by our fire agency. Many thanks to Jim for his work and, as is the norm, many thanks to our fire fighters for the great work they do for the community.

A Different Canine Issue – Coyotes

I've previously shared Game and Fish advice on how to coexist with wildlife in residential areas. Due to some recent contact in midtown, both with Game and Fish and with coyotes, I'm going to share the information again. First, though, if you'd like to see the full list of suggestions related to all sorts of wildlife issues, including how to live with coyotes in urban areas, Google "Arizona Game and Fish Department," and click on the "Living with

Wildlife” tab. It’ll take you to a list of various types of animals, each with a specific set of recommendations from the State.

A midtown housing project was recently begun. The building site had been the home of several wildlife species while the structures on the parcel were unoccupied. Now that the excavation has begun in anticipation of the construction, the animals are responding by looking for new shelter. Some of them are coyotes, and for now they’ve landed adjacent to a nearby pocket park.

Neighbors in the area had some encounters with the coyotes, and they contacted G&F to see what could be done. The officer who came out to discuss the issue offered what I consider to be wholly unacceptable advice. He told the residents to not allow their kids to play outside (there’s a park surrounded by single family homes in the immediate area), and to carry a gun while walking around the neighborhood. Below, I’ll share what’s on their website. They *do not* suggest arming yourself for your morning walk.

It is generally illegal to discharge a firearm within City limits, less than a mile from an occupied structure. If you’d like to see the definition of an “occupied structure,” check out ARS 13-3101. It’s pretty easy to conceive though that an occupied single family home in the middle of the city, adjacent to a park with playground equipment and a softball field is probably not a great place to shoot your gun

That prohibition does not apply in cases of self-defense, or defense of another person against an animal attack if a reasonable person would believe deadly force against the animal



was the immediately necessary reaction to the circumstances. I can pretty much guarantee, though, if you start shooting your .38 in a midtown neighborhood, the police are going to take a pretty tough look at those circumstances, and the potential for injury to others as a result of your actions. I’m suggesting other remedies.

With respect to coyotes, Game and Fish recommends these strategies:

- a. If you’re approached by one (or some) make yourself as large as possible, keep eye contact, don’t run – make a bunch of noise to let them know you’re not intimidated (even if you are).
- b. We have a leash law for dogs. Keep your pets on a leash when walking them around the neighborhood. Keep them close if you know coyotes are bedded down in the area.
- c. If you’re with a child and a coyote approaches, pick the child up and do what’s suggested in point “a.”
- d. Don’t ever feed them. Feed your pets indoors. Keep your garbage in wildlife proof containers, and put it on the side of the street only on the day of pick up.
- e. Trim back plants and bushes around your house to reduce hiding and resting places.

Game and Fish will generally not relocate residential wildlife. They'll tell you it's only temporary, and they travel to where it's easiest to eat. Their reasoning is that as long as you leave attractive lures such as food sources outside your house, another group of animals would quickly take their place. If your yard and/or neighborhood isn't, they'll move on.

I believe the advice given by the Game and Fish officer last week was irresponsible. I've reached out to the State to secure a retraction and a clarification.

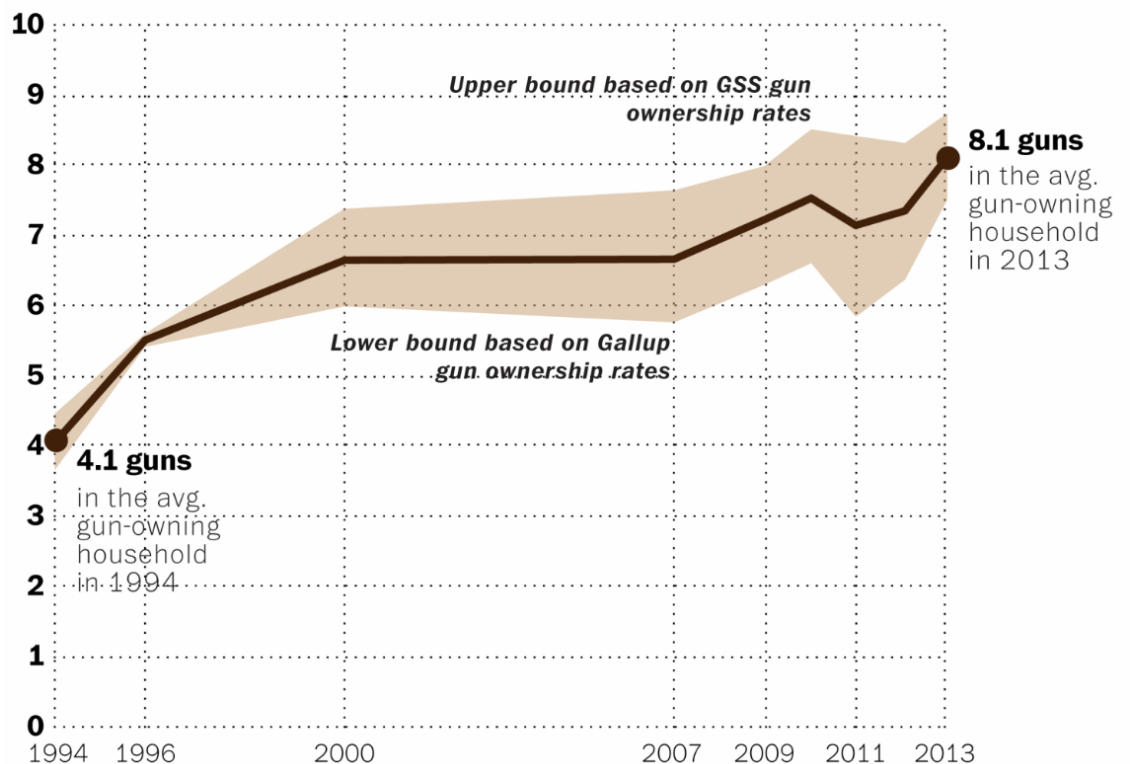
Gun Violence

The advice to wander around the neighborhood carrying a gun sounds like the initiative that a local guy was advocating last year – handing out shotguns in our residential areas. Even people who were otherwise allied with the guy on other issues took exception to the effort. Thankfully, the idea fizzled.

These sorts of things aren't just happening in Tucson, and in Arizona. As the graph below shows, there are nearly twice as many guns in the average gun-owning household today as there were 20 years ago. The data comes from surveys conducted by the BATF.

Gun owners stock up

Average number of guns present in gun-owning households



WAPO.ST/**WONKBLOG**

Source: Firearm numbers via Congressional Research Service and Wonkblog estimates; Household gun ownership rates from Gallup and the General Social Survey; Household numbers from the U.S. Census.

The data shows that in 1994, the average gun-owning household owned just over four weapons. Now, it's over 8. The share of gun-owning households has been declining over the past 20 years, while domestic firearm production and imports have continued to rise.

It is your undeniable right to own weapons. Many of us do. Owning more than eight of them, though?

In the past week, there was yet another shooting on a college campus. At Tennessee State University, one person was killed and three others wounded in a shooting that began over a dice game. A dice game!

I'm sure you've read about the incident in Albuquerque in which a four-year-old girl was murdered in an incident that began with road rage. In that case, the guy charged had previously been arrested for violent crimes but was never prosecuted. He had aggravated battery, domestic violence, and a violent incident that involved a gun in two other felony cases – all since 2010. Each time, the case was dropped.

In Chicago, over the course of a single weekend, these incidents occurred:

A 19-year-old girl was shot and killed while sitting in a car with her boyfriend – 4:30 in the afternoon. The guy was taken to the hospital and is being treated. Someone simply walked up to the car and opened fire. Gang ties are suspected.

A three-year-old boy was accidentally shot and killed by his six year old brother. They were playing “cops and robbers” in their home at around 9pm. The older kid found his dad's loaded revolver on the top of the refrigerator and shot his younger brother in the face.

A 22-year-old man was killed in another shooting when two guys pulled up next to his car and began firing. A 19-year-old passenger was also wounded in that incident.

A 32-year-old guy was walking home and got into an argument with two men on a sidewalk near his home. A gun was pulled, and the guy was shot in the abdomen.

Two kids, one 17 and the other 18, were walking home in the evening when somebody walked up and began shooting. Both are severely injured – the gunman escaped.

That weekend, there were 18 people shot in separate shootings. In response, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel has finally pledged to financially help a local gun buy-back program. In his statement he said, “We're going to try everything we can to help bring a level of security and safety throughout the city of Chicago.” Under the initiative, churches and neighborhood organizations will be able to partner up with the City and hold their own buyback events. After I held one a couple of years ago, the State passed a law that makes it so TPD would have to sell guns turned in through a buyback back into circulation. The Legislature can't mandate that on the part of private citizens, though. Some food for thought.

How about other parts of the country? In Florida, they're considering a bill that would flip the burden of proof in a “Stand Your Ground” type of case onto the State. Anybody who claims self defense is assumed to be telling the truth unless the State can prove otherwise,

often in a pre-trial immunity hearing.



If the State fails, the shooter is eligible for up to \$200K in court costs and attorney fees. I understand innocent until proven guilty, but that generally happens in a trial, not the way this NRA-backed bill is written. Remember, Florida is also the State in which they made it illegal for a doctor to ask parents of a patient if they had a gun in the home. In psychiatric cases, that just might be a germane piece of information. The law was upheld in 2014.

The message in Florida is that if you're charged with shooting somebody, claim self-defense. They've left you no reason not to since the burden falls to the State to prove otherwise at pre-trial.

The system is broken. A group of us, including survivors from Tucson's own two mass shooting events, will begin planning events for next year that will continue to call attention to gun violence, and the lack of guts our Federal and State legislators demonstrate on the topic. Next June 2nd is National Wear Orange Day to draw attention to the issue of gun violence. Tucson will have its own series of awareness events leading up to that day and on it to send our own message that these weekly, even daily murders of our kids and neighbors is unacceptable, as is the feckless response by our legislators.

And back to the Game and Fish Department advice that we should be wandering around in our parks with guns – what could possibly go wrong with that recommendation?

TPD Burglary Tips

Another "protect yourself" item is advice given by TPD on how to avoid becoming a burglary victim. Visits from midtown officers to neighborhood annual meetings is something we see on a regular basis. Their reports are valuable, and we appreciate them. At a recent Mitman neighborhood meeting, Officer Perez gave some tips that I felt are worth sharing more broadly. (Note to Game and Fish: they do not recommend we carry guns through the neighborhood just in case we see a burglary in progress).

The three broad areas addressed are the points of entry to your home, environmental deterrents like your landscaping, and information sharing.

Here are some basics relative to your home or business. Keep all doors and windows closed and securely locked. Use deadbolt locks with at least a one inch throw and a reinforced strike plate. If you have a swamp cooler, use a window locking system that allows you to secure the window in a position that's too small for entry. If you've got an attached garage, always lock the door that leads into the house, rather than relying on your automatic garage door mechanism for security. Oh, and the pet doors? People can slip through them too, if they're large enough.

Keep the perimeter of your home well lit. You want to create the illusion that you're at home. Your shrubbery should be trimmed away from entrances so burglars cannot conceal themselves. Have somebody pick up your mail while you're gone for extended periods of time. Neighborhood watch programs are a good way to share with trusted neighbors that you'll be away.

In these days where your life can become an open book through technology, restrict access to your social media pages to people you know and trust. Don't post messages about upcoming vacations or send pictures from the beach you're laying on. They're an invitation to burglars.

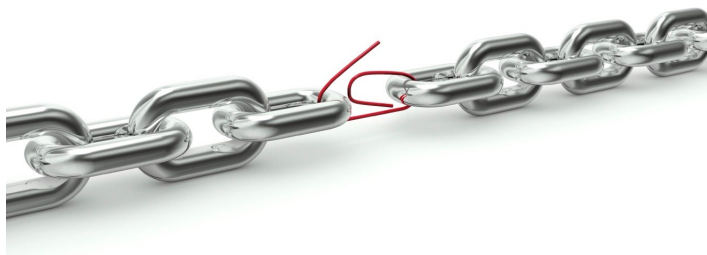
If something's suspicious, call 911. I can't tell you how many times I hear this repeated at neighborhood meetings, and nearly every time the message is repeated because somebody asked whether or not they really should "bother" the 911 dispatchers. Do it. That's why they're there.

The other thing I often hear is a dialogue on how to set up a neighborhood watch program. Give us a call and we'll help you through that process, and get you in touch with the right people at TPD who can assist. You need to understand up front, though, that a neighborhood watch program is no good if neighbors aren't going to actively participate. You get the security from them in proportion to the effort you invest. Neighborhood watch works if you and your neighbors invest yourselves in its success.

Public Safety Job Fair

Since the Mariposa Port of Entry in Nogales was expanded back in 2014, its capacity to process more commercial truck traffic has more gone from about 1,500 trucks per day up to more than 4,000. The \$250M expansion also added eight car lanes, giving the Port a total of 12 for cars and eight for commercial trucks. It's one of the ten busiest cargo ports along the U.S.-Mexico border. That's potentially great for our local economy.

The potential can't be realized, though, if staffing of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) personnel is lacking. Right now, staffing levels are the weak link in our commerce chain at the border.



On November 9th from 10am until 4pm, the Pima College downtown campus at 1255 N Stone will play host to a job fair that'll be focused on CBP workers. Last year they were given authority to hire 2,000 new customs officers. So far, they've only filled 800 of those positions. TPD will also take part in the Job Fair. We've got one academy class in the works right now, but there's a need for more.

The PCC event will target recent college grads, veterans, and generally others who may be looking to pursue a law enforcement career. Filling these positions is crucial for our preserving the commerce that should be using the newly expanded Mariposa Port of Entry. They've got options. Losing that truck traffic would be a significant blow to our ability to continue climbing out of the economic downturn that began back in 2008-2009.

The CBP and TPD positions each have their own qualification standards. I'll list them here so you have a better idea as to whether or not it'd be worth your time to check out the vacancies.

Requirements

For CBP:

- Be between the ages of 18 and 36
- Be a US Citizen and a resident for the past three years
- High school diploma or GED
- Have a valid driver's license
- Pass a background investigation, medical examination, fitness test, and drug test

For TPD:

- At least 21 years old
- No criminal or drug abuse history
- US citizen
- High School diploma or GED
- Good physical condition
- Excellent character
- Possess or be able to obtain an Arizona driver's license
- Good driving record

I opened this week with a description of our police chief candidates. We're hiring all up and down the occupational ladder in the public safety field. The upcoming Job Fair's an opportunity to speak directly to recruiters and get your oar in the water.

Supporting Public Safety

Back in 2008, Officer Eric Hite was killed in the line of duty by a gunshot wound. Shortly after his death, the Eric Hite Foundation was formed as a 501(c)(3) non-profit that provides child care and other family outreach services for the kids of law enforcement and other emergency services personnel.

Coming on November 14th, both our firefighters and police officers are jointly sponsoring a coed softball tournament, the proceeds from which will go to benefit the Eric Hite Foundation. The other sponsors, along with information on how to get involved is all shown in this flyer:

When: Saturday, November 14, 2015 (7:00 AM)

Where: Golf Links Sports complex (Golf Links & Craycroft)

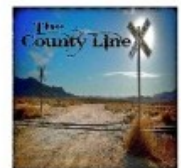
\$600 per team (NEW competitive and non-competitive brackets!)

Team: 10-15 players (2 females minimum)

Ages: 18+

ASA to umpire this event

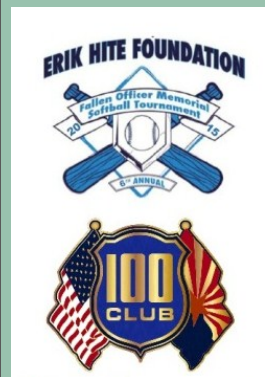
Join us for a fun filled day of games, great raffle items, live music by The County Line, and free BBQ for players +1, and much more. Put your team together and come to have some fun!



Interested in playing but don't have a team? Email ahuizar@erikhitefoundation.org for more information.

Proceeds go to the Erik Hite Foundation and the Arizona 100 Club to benefit First Responders and their families.

In-kind sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsor

Bronze Sponsors



The families of our first responders (and I'd add, our military families) are often forgotten when outreach services are provided to selected groups. This event is a way of reaching out and assisting those whose needs are uniquely positioned in our community.

Domestic Abuse

To continue on the public safety theme, I'll share throughout the month of October information being produced by our local domestic violence service provider, Emerge! Center for Domestic Abuse. This week, I think it's important to share a little about the collateral damage we often don't consider when thinking of abusive relationships. That's the impact on the kids in the household.

I thought this quote from Emerge! material was particularly apt:

"Children are not just eye witnesses to domestic abuse – they are actively involved in trying to understand the abuse, predicting when it will happen, protecting themselves, their mother or their siblings, and worrying about the consequences. The focus on day to day survival may leave little room for fun and relaxation, or meeting basic needs."

(Wisconsin Department of Children and Families DV Handbook – 2010.)



Emerge! has a therapy through art program. This is a piece they shared online this week. It clearly shows how the kid involved is suffering anxiety from the unpredictable nature of his/her home surroundings.

Unfortunately, they're the hidden victims of domestic abuse. In fact, Emerge! shares that over half of the women who experience intimate partner violence have kids under the age of 12.

Fully 40% of the clients served by Emerge! are children. They offer support services that promote both safety and healing for the kids. Some of the signs you should look for when you have reason to believe a kid is involved in an abusive home situation include:

- Increased aggression
- Anxiety, fear, confusion, grief and lack of trust
- Isolation and regression
- Bed-wetting and nightmares
- Attempts to assume adult roles
- Self-blame, guilt, shame and self-destructive behaviors
- Developmental delays
- Impaired social development

While the focus so far this month has been on the "direct" victim, it's key to not lose sight of the others who are negatively impacted by abuse in the household. If you have reason to suspect a child you know may be involved, please contact the folks at Emerge! by calling 795.8001, or the 24 hour emergency hotline @ 888.428.0101.

Some Good News on Domestic Violence

Although it may sound like an oxymoron, there is good news to report this week on the domestic violence topic. Tucson City Court has received a three year Justice for Families grant valued at just under \$500K. The grant comes from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women. It's our second such grant.

The money is going to be used to continue the domestic violence court program. Judge Wendy Million launched that court back in 2013. She hears all of the domestic violence related cases and works with advocacy groups to provide the needed services to victims. By combining them all in one court, we can better provide the social safety network the women (and kids) need. This grant money will fund extra security in the courtroom, continuing education on domestic violence for judges, court staff, and attorneys who handle the cases, and it'll fund two victim advocates from Emerge! who'll work at City Court providing direct aid to victims. They'll also use the money to work with offenders, encouraging them to complete probation and to reduce recidivism rates. Here's a quote from Judge Million that's on point:

"During our first three years of operation, when offenders have successfully completed review hearings with the court and completed their domestic violence treatment, there have been very low levels of re-offense. This keeps victims safer and makes the offenders more productive members of society."

Congratulations to Judge Million, and thanks again this week to Ed and his staff at Emerge! for their hard work on this tough issue.

Development Incentives

A few weeks ago, I shared some graphs showing the effects of some of the development incentives we're offering. To be clear, each time we offer an incentive, it is required to pass a Gift Clause test. That means we cannot give financial incentives to a developer that exceed the value of the benefits that accrue to the taxpayers as a result of the project. The graphs and the narratives I shared suggested that we may have come to a point where we need to rethink the level of incentives we're offering.

In particular, we may need to consider the level of incentives we're offering through what's called the Government Property Lease Excise Tax (GPLET). These GPLET deals are where we take ownership of a property (making them technically government-owned) so they're off the property tax rolls for eight years – the term of the GPLET. My sense is that at some point, the market won't need that full level of incentive and the City (taxpayers) should retool the terms of the GPLET so we're not losing the full value of what's taxable – even on the property in its undeveloped state.

For example – let's say a developer has a building that's unoccupied, but he's interested in doing interior improvements to attract retail/housing/whatever. We're collecting some level of property tax even on the undeveloped property. One thought is to offer the GPLET, but instead of totally eliminating the tax they're already paying, charge "rent" on the building at a level matching or approximating the taxes they're already paying. It's no more out-of-pocket cash flow for the developer, and the City isn't writing off 100% of our tax revenues for eight years.

The argument has been that the market won't support development without incentives. I get that – and yet I'd offer these two thoughts. First, my suggestion isn't to eliminate the incentive, but rather to simply continue receiving the amount of tax revenue we currently are, just calling it "rent" instead of property tax. Secondly, I came across this comment in the CBRE Tucson Q3 Retail marketplace update that validates the notion that the market may indeed be ready for us to reconsider how we're treating these incentives:

As the market continues to firm up, landlord concession packages have been decreasing over time. A year ago, leases were more incentivized to attract tenants. Now landlords and tenant expectations on the economics of lease deals are closer together than they were previously.

There will be pushback from the development community. But when we even have developers who are in default on performance bonds for one project asking for GPLET incentives on another one (an incentive that I would in no way support, even at the reduced level I'm proposing here), it's clearly time to send a message that we're rethinking the whole incentive issue. I believe it's time we at least have the conversation. More to come on this.

PAG 2045

Last week, I mentioned some of the work being done by the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) and the RTA in regional transportation planning. A series of public meetings is coming during which you can see their work and ask any questions you may have about what's in the planning stages. The first of these open houses is coming next week, out at the Randolph Golf Course Clubhouse at 600 S Alvernon. That presentation will be followed by three others, each in a different part of the City.

The projects being considered are of critical importance to the region. And they come at a cost. Just as you should with the County Bonds that are currently on the ballot, doing your homework on what's being considered is in your best interest. These public open houses are intended to be informative, but also to offer you a way to give your input to the PAG staffers who will be at the events.

Here's a flyer that has all of the information you'll need to find a presentations. They're all the same, so if you miss one, you've got three other opportunities to take part.

Pima Association of Governments' 2045 Regional Transportation Plan*

PAG's 2045 RTP identifies projects that are anticipated to be scheduled in our region starting in fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2045. Stop by one of PAG's four public open houses to see what projects are identified in the draft plan and share your comments with us. Free bus passes are available upon request. (520) 792-1093.

www.PAGregion.com



*Pima Association of Governments is federally required to update its long-range transportation plan every four years. Existing projects in the Regional Transportation Authority plan through FY 2026 and projects identified in PAG's five-year Transportation Improvement Program are included in the draft 2045 RTP.

Wednesday, Nov. 4

4 to 6 p.m.

Randolph Golf Course Clubhouse
600 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson

Monday, Nov. 9

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library
Large Conference Room
7800 N. Schisler Drive, Tucson

Friday, Nov. 13

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Joyner-Green Valley Library
Large Conference Room
601 N. La Cañada Drive, Green Valley

Thursday, Nov. 19

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

University of Arizona
Student Union, Kiva Room
1303 E. University Blvd., Tucson

John and Anna Zenger Awards – School of Journalism

I'm going to close by bragging on the UA again this week. In particular, the School of Journalism.

In each of the past three years, my bride and I have felt honored to be invited to sit in on the Zenger Award presentation. This year's event took place last Friday evening.

Back in the mid 1700s, English law was designed to protect the government from critics. At the time, the fact that statements made were true was not a defense. The Zenger's operated a newspaper that was critical of the State. While John sat in prison for having insisted on letting the people know where the government was flawed, his wife continued to print their paper. At trial, Zenger's attorney, Andrew Hamilton argued that truth is indeed an absolute defense. He won, and I guess the rest is history.

The School of Journalism gives the Zenger award each year to journalists who speak truth to power. This year, Kathy Gannon was honored. She and her coworker, photographer Anja Niedringhaus, were shot while on assignment in Afghanistan. Kathy is recovering from significant injuries to her arm. Anja was killed. Ms. Gannon's presentation was a gripping demonstration of one person's drive to chase the truth wherever it takes her.

The event each year is a chance to sit and talk with our local journalist community, the staff and faculty from the School, and maybe most importantly, the students who are working their way through their programs. I appreciate the work that comes through School Director Dave Cuillier, and the annual invitation that Elena Stauffer never seems to forget.

I often share various ways the UA serves the wider community. The work coming from the School of the 4th Estate is a key to maintaining an informed public.

Drop by the Student Union before November and check out Anja Niedringhaus' photo gallery. It's free, and the pictures tell a story we should not ignore about human relationships in a very troubled part of the world.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Events and Entertainment

Syria, Russia, ISIS and the tumultuous transformations of the Arab World

Tuesday, October 27, 2015, 6 pm

University of Arizona, Koffler Bldg, 1340 E University St, Room 204

A distinguished lecture by Rami G. Khouri sponsored by the University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies and co-sponsored by the School of Middle East & North African Studies, the School of Government and Public Policy, and the Center for Border & Global Journalism. cmes.arizona.edu/events/syria-russia-isis-and-tumultuous-transformations-arab-world.

Safe Seniors Event

Saturday, November 14, 2015, 10 am – 2 pm

La Quinta Inn Ballroom, 102 N Alvernon Way

Join the Tucson Police Department Operations Midtown Division for an event that will provide our senior community with access to information and resources for keeping their Golden Years safe and healthy. A wide variety of community organizations will be on hand, including the Arizona Attorney General's officer, the Association for Resources and Choices "Elder Shelter", the United States Postal Inspector, Pima County Council on Aging, Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Tucson Community Food Bank, and Pima County Health Department to name a few.

Cyclovia Tucson and Viva La Vida Local Food Festival

Viva La Local teamed up with Living Streets Alliance's Cyclovia Tucson for a weekend of fun celebrating joyous local food and five miles of car-free city streets!

Cyclovia: Sunday, November 1, 2015, 10 am – 3 pm

Midtown route featuring 4th Avenue and Fontana Boulevard

5 miles of car-free city streets for walking, biking, and all-out fun brought to you by the Living Streets Alliance. www.cycloviatucson.org.

Viva La Local Food Festival: Saturday, October 31, 2015, 9 am – 5 pm

Rillito Park Race Track, 4502 N 1st Ave.

Admission is \$6, local food and drink tastings \$5, free parking, free bicycle valet, and free veggie valet. www.vivalalocalfoodfest.com.

Halloween and Dia De Los Muertos Events

Check out Visit Tucson's holiday event calendar for a run-down of events around town this week: www.visittucson.org/events/holiday/.

Ongoing

The Rogue Theatre at The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd

Presenting "Hamlet" and "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" by Tom Stoppard in rotating repertory from October 15 through November 22.

www.therogue theatre.org

Tucson Convention Center, 260 S Church St
tucsonconventioncenter.com/event-calendar/

Mission Garden, 929 W Mission Ln
Saturdays 8 am – 12 pm, April to November; 12 pm – 4 pm, December to March
A re-creation of the Spanish Colonial walled garden that was part of Tucson's historic San Agustin Mission. For guided tours call 520-777-9270 and leave message.

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S 6th Ave
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm
www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N Alvernon Way
September 11, 2015 – January 3, 2016: "Nature Connects, Art with LEGO Bricks"
www.tucsonbotanical.org

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave.
Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 11:00am - 3:00pm; Friday & Saturday: 10:00am - 4:00pm
www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd
www.uamineralmuseum.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S Stone Ave
www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Fox Theatre, 17 W Congress St
www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Hotel Congress, 311 E Congress St
hotelcongress.com

Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd
www.loftcinema.com

Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St
www.rialtotheatre.com/

Arizona State Museum, 1013 E University Blvd
www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

Arizona Theater Company, 330 S Scott Ave
www.arizonatheatre.org

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave
www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org